HEADQUARTERS
POTOMAC RIVER NAVAL COMMAND
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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From: Commandant, Potomac River Naval Command
To: Commanding General, Headquarters Military District of Washington, Washington 25, D. C.

Subj: After Action Report State Funeral for the late President of the United States

Ref: (a) MDW ANCS-SE of 27 November 1963
(b) MDW ANCS-SE of 5 December 1963

1. This is my after-action report for the State Funeral of the late President, as requested by references (a) and (b).

2. On receiving the news of President J. F. Kennedy's death over the radio, I immediately telephoned you, the Chief of the Bureau of Naval Personnel, and the Chief of Naval Operations to establish personal liaison. I maintained liaison with my Service Secretary through the Chief of Naval Operations. To activate the State Funeral Plan, Naval activities under my command, plus the U. S. Naval Academy, having a role in the Plan, were ordered to hold all personnel in immediate readiness for requirements as might arise. Liaison with the United States Marine Corps was established by telephone. A Navy Liaison Officer was dispatched to the Funeral Operations Center which you established. A planning and implementing group was established in my Headquarters to carry out my part of the Plan. The necessary arrangements were made and my readiness was reported to participate in an arrival ceremony at Andrews Air Force Base if required on your command. Enclosure (1) details my participation.

3. The many changes with little or no notice which hampered the planning and kept the arrangements in an unsettled state must have added greatly to your burden, but all aspects of the funeral were none-the-less outstanding, and evoked universal acclaim to which I would like to add my own "Well Done".

4. My participation included the following activities which provided personnel, medical assistance, automotive transportation and aircraft to meet the Navy's requirements for the funeral:

U. S. Naval Academy
U. S. Naval Station
U. S. Navy Ceremonial Guard
U. S. Navy Band
U. S. Naval School of Music
U. S. Naval Air Facility, Washington, D. C.
U. S. Naval Air Reserve Training Unit

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U. S. Naval Hospital, Bethesda, Maryland
U. S. Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Maryland
Area Public Works Office, Chesapeake
Commander, Carrier Air Group FOUR
Commander, Carrier Air Group EIGHT
Commanding Officer, VF-14
Commanding Officer, VF-74
Commanding Officer, VF-101
Commanding Officer, VF-102

5. The daily Navy participation is contained in enclosure (1). Enclosure (2) covers the problem area with comments and recommendations. My recommendations for suitable recognition of individual participants is contained in enclosure (3).

L. H. FROST

Copy to:
CNO
BUPERS

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